

Battery Age Joins U.S. Defense Industrial Base Consortium

HIGHLIGHTS

- **DIBC Membership Secured:** Battery Age Minerals has been admitted to the U.S. Defense Industrial Base Consortium (“DIBC”), opening a direct channel to engage with DoW-sponsored critical minerals programs and defence supply chain initiatives.
- **Germanium – Powering Defence and the Semiconductor Revolution:** Germanium underpins infrared night-vision optics, fibre-optic networks, satellite solar cells, silicon–germanium (SiGe) high-speed chips, and radiation detection – applications embedded across the U.S. defence technology base with limited viable substitutes.
- **China’s Export Leverage:** China controls approximately 70% of global refined germanium production and imposed export licensing restrictions in July 2023, followed by further tightening in late 2024 – effectively disrupting Western access to a mineral for which the United States currently has no primary domestic production.¹
- **Bleiberg – One of the Western World’s Highest-Grade Germanium Historic Sources:** historic Bleiberg Zinc–Lead–Germanium Mine in Austria produced approximately 172 tonnes of germanium over a 700-year mining history, with concentrate grades reaching up to 1,500 g/t Ge – placing it at the time among the highest-grade germanium sources in the Western world.^{2,3}
- **Apex – Adjacent to the Only High-Grade Germanium–Gallium Mine in the U.S.:** The Company’s Apex Project in Utah comprises 186 claims (~3,728 acres) immediately adjacent to the historic Apex Mine, the former leading U.S. producer of germanium and gallium, with a WorldView-3 remote sensing program currently underway to refine further exploration programs.⁴
- **Germanium Technology Development:** Battery Age is progressing germanium enrichment technologies and downstream application pathways, including the potential for direct-to-refinery processing from high-grade concentrates, to better align upstream exploration with end-market specification and qualification requirements.
- **Integrated Germanium Strategy:** Battery Age is developing an end-to-end germanium platform from exploration through to potential downstream applications, positioning the Company alongside jurisdictions prioritising secure critical mineral supply chains in response to increasing geopolitical supply constraints.
- **OTA Framework – Non-Dilutive Funding Pathway:** The DIBC operates under the DoW’s Other Transaction Authority, providing access to grants, cost-sharing arrangements, and accelerated contracting opportunities outside traditional procurement.

Battery Age Minerals Ltd (ASX:BM8) (“Battery Age” or “the Company”) is pleased to announce that it has been accepted as a member of the U.S. Defense Industrial Base Consortium (the “DIBC”).

The DIBC is a U.S. Government–supported consortium administered by Advanced Technology International (“ATI”) on behalf of the U.S. Department of War (“DoW”). It operates under the DoW’s Other Transaction Authority (“OTA”), a flexible contracting mechanism designed to accelerate innovation and engagement with non-traditional defence suppliers, including emerging technology companies and resource developers.

Germanium – A Critical Mineral Under Siege

Germanium is a metalloid element with unique semiconductor and infrared-optical properties that make it indispensable to a wide range of defence and advanced technology systems. Unlike many critical minerals that serve a narrow set of end-uses, germanium is embedded across multiple pillars of the U.S. defence technology base:

- **Infrared Optics:** Germanium’s transparency to infrared radiation makes it the standard lens and window material for thermal imaging cameras, night-vision systems, and targeting optics used across all branches of the U.S. military.
- **Fibre-Optic Communications:** GeO₂-doped optical fibre is the backbone of modern telecommunications and secure military communications networks worldwide.
- **Satellite and Space Systems:** Multi-junction germanium-based solar cells power the majority of satellites and spacecraft due to their superior energy conversion efficiency.
- **Next-Generation Semiconductors:** Silicon–germanium (SiGe) alloys are increasingly used in high-speed, high-frequency integrated circuits for 5G, radar, and AI-driven computing, with leading chipmakers signalling expanded SiGe adoption in future node architectures.

China controls approximately 70% of global refined germanium production and in July 2023 announced export licensing requirements on germanium products, subsequently escalating restrictions in late 2024.¹ The United States currently has no primary domestic germanium production. Germanium has been classified as a critical mineral by both the U.S. Government and the European Commission under the EU Critical Raw Materials Act, and has been identified by NATO as one of twelve raw materials essential to defence and energy security.

Battery Age’s Germanium Platform

Battery Age’s acceptance into the DIBC reflects the strategic relevance of the Company’s germanium-focused exploration and technology portfolio. Battery Age operates across two Western-aligned jurisdictions – the United States and the European Union – with complementary germanium assets and an integrated technology strategy, positioning it within regions actively prioritising domestic critical mineral supply under defence and industrial policy frameworks in response to growing geopolitical supply constraints.

Bleiberg Zinc–Lead–Germanium Project (Carinthia, Austria)

The Company’s flagship European asset is situated in the historic Bleiberg mining district, which historically operated for approximately 700 years producing zinc, lead, and germanium



across more than 1,100 km of underground workings along an 18 km strike length. Total germanium production is estimated at approximately 172 tonnes, and at the time of the historical Bleiberg Mine's closure in 1993 the operation ranked as the sixth largest germanium producer globally.² Technical analysis has confirmed historical concentrate grades reaching up to 1,500 g/t Ge, placing Bleiberg at the time among the highest-grade germanium sources in the Western world.³ Testing has also confirmed the presence of Germanium-76 (Ge⁷⁶), a strategically significant isotope used in advanced semiconductor and radiation detection applications. Battery Age's tenure now covers over 330 km² across the broader Bleiberg district, with over 6 km of priority drill targets identified along the historic mining corridor.

Apex Germanium–Gallium Project (Utah, USA)

The Company's Apex Project comprises 186 unpatented lode mining claims covering approximately 3,728 acres in the Beaver Dam Mountains of south-west Utah. The claim package has been strategically assembled immediately adjacent to the historic Apex Mine, which was the leading U.S. producer of germanium and gallium during the 1980's and 1990's. Battery Age is currently conducting a WorldView-3 remote sensing program acquiring high-resolution shortwave infrared (SWIR) and visible near-infrared (VNIR) data to refine structural and alteration mapping ahead of ground-based exploration programs.

Germanium Technology Evaluation

In parallel, Battery Age is evaluating germanium enrichment technologies and downstream application pathways. The exceptionally high concentrate grades historically produced at the Historic Bleiberg Mine may support direct-to-refinery processing, potentially bypassing conventional smelting and potentially offering cost and ESG advantages to the Company's Bleiberg Project. This technology work is focused on aligning upstream resource development with downstream product specifications, qualification requirements, and sustainability considerations relevant to higher-value germanium applications in semiconductors, optics, and defence systems.

Broader Portfolio

In addition to its germanium-focused platform, Battery Age holds the Falcon Lake Lithium Project in Ontario, Canada, where over 12,000 m of diamond drilling has been completed across a 5 km mineralised corridor. The program has delivered standout intercepts including 55.95 m @ 1.47% Li₂O (from 222.2m hole 24FL-108), 54.1 m @ 1.74% Li₂O (from 100.85m hole 24FL-107), and 43.0 m @ 1.62% Li₂O (from 62.2m hole 24FL-114), with mineralisation remaining open along strike and at depth.⁵ The project provides additional critical minerals exposure and portfolio diversification in a trusted North American jurisdiction.

CEO Commentary

Battery Age CEO, Sebastian Kneer, commented:

“Joining the DIBC is a deliberate step in our strategy to position Battery Age within the U.S. defence supply chain at a time when germanium supply security has become a matter of national priority.

Germanium is not a commodity that can be easily substituted. It is the lens material for every military thermal-imaging system, the dopant in every optical fibre, and the performance enabler

in the next generation of high-speed SiGe semiconductors. China's decision to restrict exports has exposed a vulnerability that Western governments are now moving urgently to address.

With Bleiberg's significant historic zinc-lead-germanium production, and Apex, positioned alongside one of the only known high-grade germanium–gallium system in the United States, Battery Age holds a unique dual-continent platform. DIBC membership now gives us a structured pathway to connect these assets with U.S. defence requirements and pursue collaborative opportunities, non-dilutive funding, and long-term partnerships.”

Next Steps

Through DIBC membership, Battery Age intends to:

- Engage with DoW program offices on germanium-specific supply chain requirements and capability gaps.
- Consider targeted proposals into DIBC solicitations and related funding programs relevant to germanium, gallium, and critical minerals.
- Pursue collaborative opportunities with consortium members, defence contractors, and research institutions.
- Continue advancing exploration at Bleiberg, remote sensing at Apex, and germanium technology evaluation to support future commercialisation and potential offtake pathways.

References

1. USGS, Mineral Commodity Summaries 2026; China Ministry of Commerce, Export Control Announcement No. 23, 2023; subsequent restrictions announced December 2024.
2. Cerny, I. (1991); Zeeh, S. and Bechstadt, T. (1994); Zeeh, S. and Bechstadt, T. (1994). Carbonate-Hosted Pb-Zn Mineralisation at Bleiberg-Kreuth (Austria): Compilation of Data and New Aspects. In: Fontbote, L. and Boni, M. editors, Sediment Hosted Pb-Zn Ores, Special Publication No. 10 of the Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits. pp. 271-2962; Cerny, I. (1991). Lagerstättenforschung in Kärnten Neuergebnisse und Aspekte für die Zukunft. Carinthia II 181./101. Jahrgang S. 119-129 Klagenfurt 1991; Cerny, I. and Schroll, E. (1995). Spezialmetallgehalte in ZnS-Konzentraten der Lagerstätte Bleiberg Kreuth. Arch. f. Lagerstförsch. Geol. B.-A. ISSN 0253-097X Band 18 S. 5–33 Wien, Juni 1995; Schroll, E. (2006). Neues zur Genese der Blei-Zink Lagerstätte Bleiberg. Carinthia II 196./116. Jahrgang Seiten 483-500 Klagenfurt 2006; Multi-Met (2023) Bleiberg Project – Multi-Met, Multi. Available at: <https://multimetdev.com/projects/bleibergproject/>; Schor, D. (2021) TSMC details 5 nm, WikiChip Fuse. Available at: <https://fuse.wikichip.org/news/3398/tsmc-details-5-nm/> (Accessed: 25 February 2024); Leach, D., Taylor, R., Fey, D et al. (2010), , A deposit model for Mississippi Valley-Type lead-zinc ores, USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2010-5070-A; Mining Insights Pty Ltd, Independent Geologists Report, 1 December 2022; Battery Age Minerals ASX announcement dated 31 October 2025.
3. Battery Age Minerals ASX announcement dated 17 April 2025 – Breakthrough Germanium Grades up to 1,500 g/t Identified in Bleiberg Concentrates.
4. U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 1577, Bernstein, L.R. (1986); Battery Age Minerals ASX announcement dated 24 March 2026.
5. Battery Age Minerals ASX announcement dated 28 January 2025.

Authorised by the Board of Battery Age Minerals Ltd.

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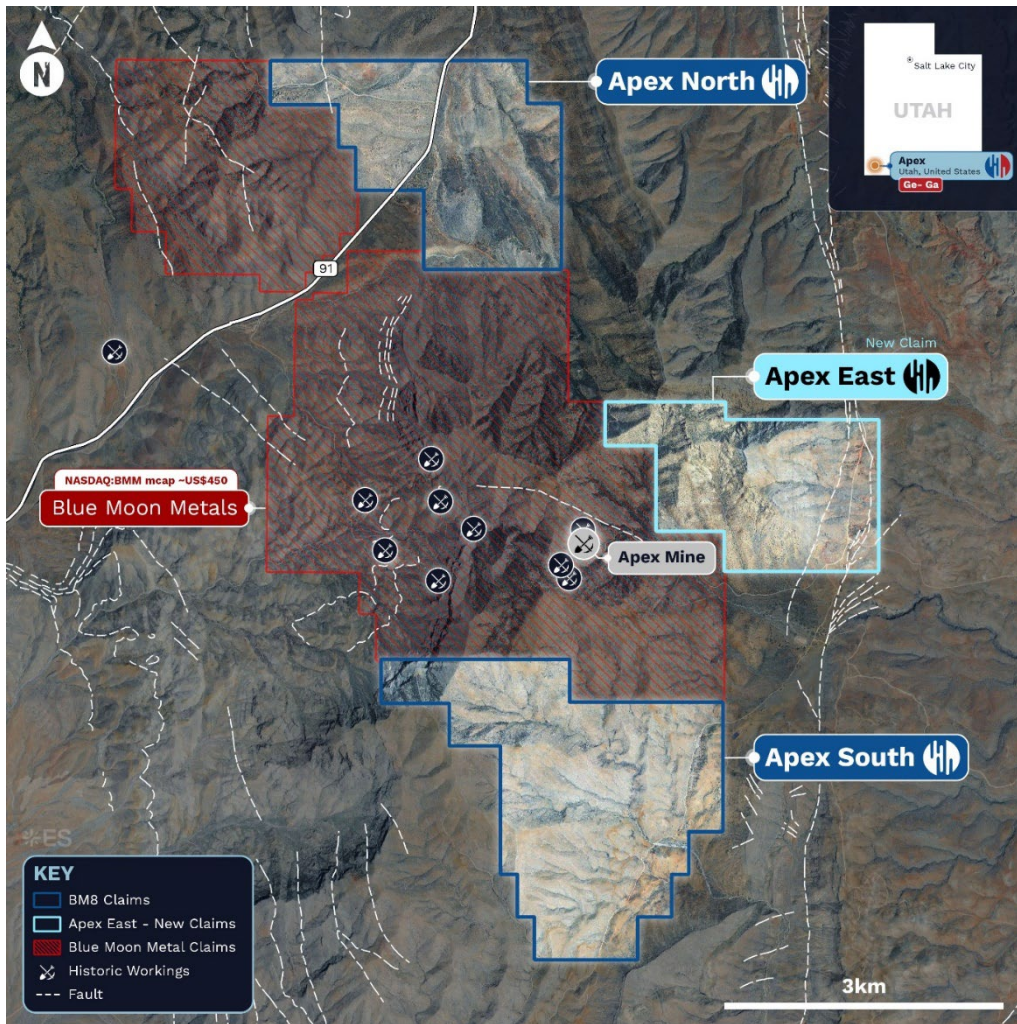


Figure 1: Location of the Company's Apex claim blocks.

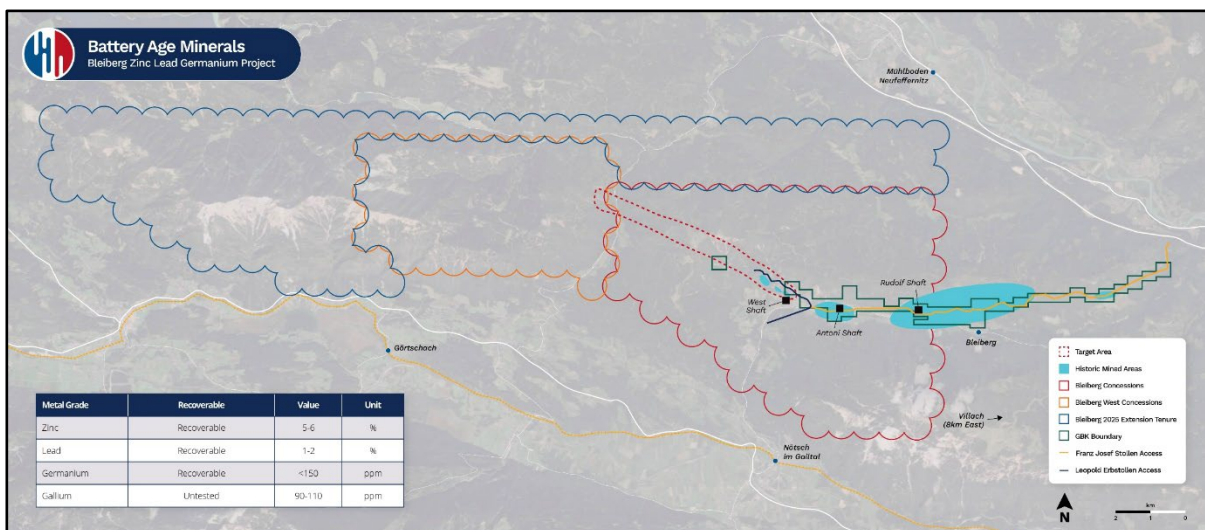


Figure 2: Bleiberg Project – Illustrating exploration tenure, historic mining corridor and shafts. Insert table demonstrates historical ore feed data for the Bleiberg Mine (Green)^{1,2}. 100% staked claims identified in blue & orange (Bleiberg West concessions) and existing earn-in claims shown in red, excluding green (Bleiberg concessions). Refer to Bleiberg earn-in terms and structure set out in the Company's announcement dated 16 May 2024 and Prospectus dated 7 December 2022,

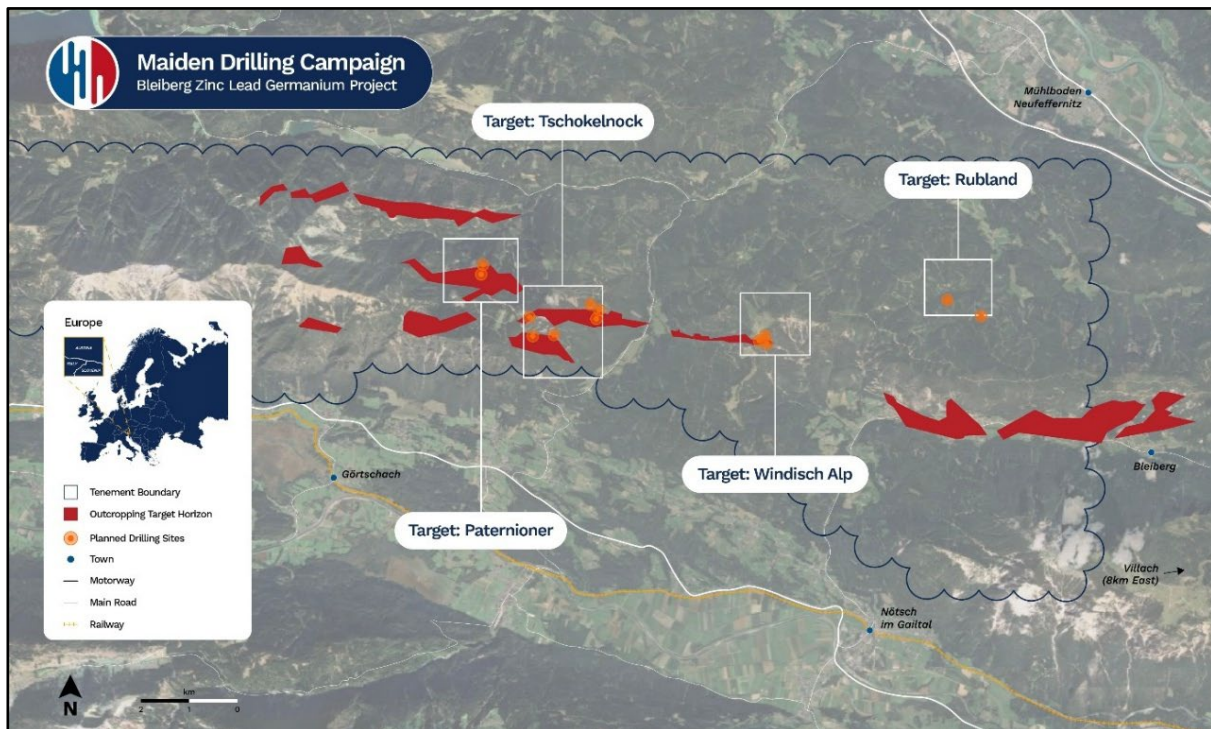


Figure 3: Bleiberg maiden drilling program – planned drilling locations.

Forward-Looking Statement

This announcement may contain certain forward-looking statements and projections. Statements regarding BM8's plans with respect to its mineral properties and programs are forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements/projections are estimates for discussion purposes only and should not be relied upon. Forward-looking statements/projections are inherently uncertain and may therefore differ materially from results ultimately achieved. There can be no assurance that BM8's plans for development of its mineral properties will proceed as currently expected. There can also be no assurance that BM8 will be able to confirm the presence of minerals resources or that any mineralisation will prove to be economic or that a mine will successfully be developed on any of BM8's mineral properties. Battery Age Minerals Limited does not make any representations and provides no warranties concerning the accuracy of the projections and disclaims any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements/projections based on new information, future events or otherwise except to the extent required by applicable laws. While the information contained in this report has been prepared in good faith, neither Battery Age Minerals Limited nor any of its directors, officers, agents, employees or advisors give any representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the fairness, accuracy, completeness or correctness of the information, opinions and conclusions contained in this announcement.

Compliance Statement

This report contains information on the Bleiberg Project extracted from an ASX market announcement dated 8 December 2022, 2 February 2023, 13 July 2023, 21 August 2023, 26 February 2024, 26 March 2024, 23 April 2024, 16 May 2024, 29 August 2024, 18 December 2024, 22 January 2025, 29 January 2025, 17 April 2025 and 24 March 2026 released by the Company and reported in accordance with the 2012 edition of the "Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves" (JORC Code). The original market announcement is available to view on www.batteryage.au and www.asx.com.au. Battery Age is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcement.

This report contains information on the Apex Project extracted from an ASX market announcement dated 31 October 2025 released by the Company and reported in accordance with the 2012 edition of the "Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves" (JORC Code). The original market announcement is available to view on www.batteryage.au and www.asx.com.au. Battery Age is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcement.